IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) In an interface device operatively coupled to an internal bus of an origin server, a method for managing connections between at least one client and said origin server, said method comprising the steps of:

establishing a network connection with one of said clients via a network;

receiving a communication from said client via said network connection;

establishing a bus connection with said origin server via an internal bus of said origin server; and

forwarding said client communication to said origin server via said bus connection.

2. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of receiving a communication from said client includes storing said communication in a buffer.

3. (original) A method according to Claim 2, wherein said step of storing said communication in a buffer includes accumulating one or more separate transmissions from said client in said buffer.

4. (original) A method according to Claim 3, wherein said step of establishing a bus connection with said server includes waiting until a complete client request is accumulated in said buffer before establishing said bus connection with said server.

5. (original) A method according to Claim 4, further comprising:

receiving a response to said client communication from said server via said bus connection; and

forwarding said response to said client via said network connection.

6. (original) A method according to Claim 5, wherein said step of receiving said response from said server includes storing said response in a buffer.

7. (original) A method according to Claim 6, wherein said step of receiving said response from said server includes terminating said bus connection after said response is received.

8. (original) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a response to said client communication from said server via said bus connection; and

forwarding said response to said client via said network connection.

9. (original) A method according to Claim 8, wherein said step of receiving said response from said server includes storing said response in a buffer.

10. (original) A method according to Claim 9, wherein said step of receiving said response from said server includes terminating said bus connection after said response is received.

11. (original) A method according to Claim 8, wherein said client communication includes an HTTP request.

12. (original) A method according to Claim 11, wherein said response from said server includes an HTML page.

13. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a network connection with a client includes establishing a separate network connection with each of a plurality of clients via said network.

14. (original) A method according to Claim 13, wherein said step of establishing said bus connection with said server includes establishing a plurality of connections with said server via said internal bus of said server.

15. (original) A method according to Claim 14, wherein the maximum number of simultaneous client connections exceeds the maximum number of simultaneous server connections.

16. (original) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising performing a security operation on said client communication prior to forwarding said client communication to said server.

17. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said step of receiving said client communication includes discerning an application identifier from said client communication; and

said step of forwarding said client communication to said server includes invoking one of a plurality of proxy applications based on said application identifier.

18. (original) A method according to Claim 17, wherein said application identifier is the connection port number.

19. (original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said client communication includes receiving at least a portion of an HTTP request.

20. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 1.

21. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 2.

22. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 3.

23. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 4.

24. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 5.

25. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 6.

26. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 7.

27. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 8.

28. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 9.

29. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 10.

30. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 11.

31. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 12.

32. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 13.

33. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 14.

34. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 15.

35. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 16.

36. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 17.

37. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 18.

38. (original) A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 19.

39. (previously amended) An adapter card for operatively coupling to an internal bus of an origin server for managing origin server communication with a network, said adapter card comprising:

a network controller for communicating with clients on said network;

a memory device for storing data and code, said code including a reverse proxy application;

a processing unit coupled to said memory device for executing said code; and

a protocol adapter coupled to said processing unit, and adapted to couple to said internal bus of said origin server, for communicating with said origin server.

40. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said code further comprises a communication protocol stack.

41. (original) An adapter according to Claim 40, wherein said communication protocol stack comprises a standard TCP/IP protocol stack.

42. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes a security proxy.

43. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes a pass-through proxy.

44. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes an HTTP proxy.

45. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 39, further comprising a data buffer for storing data received from said clients.

46. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes a master process module responsive to a connection request received from one of said clients, and operative to establish a connection with said client and to initiate a new client process module to maintain said established connection.

47. (original) An adapter card according to Claim 46, wherein said master process module is further operative to notify said proxy application of said established connection.